ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

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OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1894.

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ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT

FOR 1894.

March 11th, 1895.

To the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present my Annual Report for the year ending December 31st, 1894, with tabulated statements shewing the births, deaths, and cases of infectious sickness which occurred during the year.

The number of births registered was 131, or a rate of 28·8 per thousand of the population, against exactly the same number and rate in 1893.

The number of registered deaths was 89, or a rate of 19·6 per thousand, against 109, or a rate of 24 per thousand, in the previous year. Of this number 15

occurred at the Union Workhouse, leaving 74 to repre-
sent the rest of the Urban District. This gives a rate
of 16·3 per thousand, which compares very favourably
with the two previous years, the rate being 20·5 in
1893, and 18·5 in 1892. The greatest number of
deaths occurred, as in the previous years, in the first
quarter, 27 being registered during this period, 22
during the second, 22 during the third, and 18 in the
last quarter. On referring to Table A it will be noted
that there was one death from Diphtheria, 3 from
Scarlatina, 3 from Measles, 5 from Whooping Cough,
and 4 from Diarrhœa and Dysentery. The total num-
ber of cases of infectious disease notified during the
year was 66. Of this number 50 were Scarlatina, 3
Diphtheria, 2 Enteric Fever, and 1 Membranous
Croup. Scarlatina was present as an epidemic during
the latter half of the year ; but it was generally of a
mild character, as shewn by the number of fatal cases,
and so mild in some cases that the disease was not
recognized by the parents of the children, who in some
instances after the first days of the attack, were allowed
to run about and play with other children. In a few
instances I became acquainted with this fact, and at
once visited the houses and ordered isolation and dis-
infection as far as was possible. In the smaller cottages
isolation is, however, practically impossible, owing to
want of room, and consequently under present condi-
tions they will always prove dangerous as a source of
infection when any epidemic appears. It is, however,
satisfactory to know that the Council has at last decided

upon the erection of a suitable Isolation Hospital, which will put us in something like a proper position to treat and stamp out any infectious disease whenever it may appear. In this connection, I would state that the better class of residents, and especially those who are in business in this town, are to be commended for the care they take in isolating and caring for their infectious sick, whenever they have the misfortune to have a ease of infectious disease in their houses, in their anxiety that the house should be safe, so far as the business portion of it is concerned; and it is satisfactory to know that in the great majority of these houses the means of isolation are so ample as to leave little or no fear that they can possibly prove a source of further infection.

I visited the premises on which the cases of Enteric Fever occurred, and examined all possible sources of the disease. In one case I have little doubt that it was brought about by the unsatisfactory state of the privy accommodation (which was very close to the house), and orders were given for this to be remedied. In the other case the fever supervened upon another acute illness, and was not accountable by any other circumstances under which the patient lived prior to the appearance of fever symptoms.

In company with your Surveyor, and independently, I have in the course of the year inspected a considerable number of places in the District with the

object of finding out and remedying any insanitary conditions, and wherever they were found given orders for their immediate correction. I also from time to time inspected the slaughter houses, cow sheds, and dairies, and impressed on their owners the necessity and importance of keeping them in an efficient sanitary condition.

The past year was especially trying in regard to Water Supply, and it is satisfactory to know that a scheme has been adopted by which our supply in future will be safe and largely augmented.

I have the honour to be,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

CHAS. R. WILLIAMS.

TABLE A.

TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1894 in the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

	Ashby Urban District.		Union Work-house.
Under 1 Year	22	...	2
1 and under 5 Years ...	10	...	2
5 „ 15 „ ...	4	...	1
15 „ 25 „ ...	1	...	1
25 „ 65 „ ...	18	...	2
65 and upwards	19	...	7
	74		15
		89	

CAUSES OF DEATH.

	Under 5 Years.		5 Years and upwards.
Ashby Urban District—			
Scarlatina	2	...	1
Diphtheria	1	...	0
Measles	2	...	0
Whooping Cough	4	...	0
Diarrhœa and Dysentery ...	3	...	0
Phthisis	0	...	2
Bronchitis, Pneumonia & Pleurisy	8	...	5
Heart Disease	0	...	5
Injuries	0	...	1
All other Diseases	11	...	29
Union Workhouse—			
Measles	1	...	0
Whooping Cough	1	...	0
Diarrhœa and Dysentery ...	0	...	1
Phthisis	0	...	2
Bronchitis, Pneumonia & Pleurisy	1	...	1
All other Diseases	1	...	7
	35		54
		89	

TABLE B.

TABLE OF POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS, coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the Year 1894, in the Ashby-de-la-Zouch Urban District; classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

POPULATION.

Census 1891   4,535

BIRTHS.

Registered Births   131

NEW CASES OF SICKNESS IN EACH LOCALITY COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

Ashby Urban District—	Under 5 Years.	5 Years and upwards.
Scarlatina	12 ...	38
Diphtheria	1 ...	2
Membranous Croup	1 ...	0
Enteric or Typhoid Fever ...	0 ...	2
*Union Workhouse—*No Cases.		
	14	42

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